

I am agast that Sinclair Broadcasting is planning to broadcast a very partisan video shortly before the presidential election, but it is also forcing its many stations to air this anti-Kerry documentary. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

This is why the F.C.C. must not deregulate the airways. Already too many television stations are in the hands of too few corporations. Sinclair is using the airways free of charge. It is supposed by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.